



Reaching Heights

A Newsletter of Heights Christian Church

VOLUME 26, NO. 1

July, 2015

SUMMER WORSHIP

- July 5** "A Prophet Among Them" Ezekiel 2:1-5
- July 12** "Angry Amos" Amos 7:7-15
After worship stay for a "Plarn" making session as we transform plastic shopping bags into a plastic yarn that will be used at the General Assembly to make sleeping mats for people who are homeless.
- July 19** Joe LaGuardia Preaching
- July 26** "Some Left" 2 Kings 4:42-44

HCC 2015-2016 LEADERSHIP Beginning July 1, 2015

Officers

Moderator *Jane Troha*
 Vice Moderator *Val McMillan*
 Secretary *Grace Loudenstein*
 Treasurer *Neil Chase*
 Asst. Treasurers *Mike Singerman, Jim Donald*

Trustees (12 total)

Officers (4)
 Team Leaders (6)
 Pastor, Elder Chair (2)

Ministry Teams

Mission
 Education
 Worship
 Fellowship
 Administration
 Peace & Justice
 Green Chalice

Team Leader

Andrena Jones-Sharp
Lloyd Ackerman
Joe LaGuardia
Joan Fronck
Carl Cormany
Kathie McWilliams
Deborah Osgood

Assistant Team Leader

Cindy Maxey
Brian Johnson
Larry Watson
Bobbi Phelps
Scott Phelps

Endowment

2018 *Larry Watson* 2017 *Bill Dunn* 2016 *Roger Careaga*
 2018 *Karen McKeenan* 2017 *Shirley Blackwell* 2016 *Nancy Carpenter*

Elder Chair *Donita Singerman*

Elder *Carl Cormany*

"SOAR"

2015 General Assembly



This year's General Assembly is in Columbus, Ohio from July 18-22.

Don and Jane Troha along with Pastor Roger and Debbie will be going and representing Heights Christian Church. They will participate in workshops and worship, seminars and business sessions, and will have much to report when they return!

If there are any pastoral emergencies or concerns during Pastor Roger's absence, please contact chair elder, Donita Singerman at 216.991.3098 or singermanmd@sbcglobal.net and/or vice moderator, Val McMillan at 216.921.2022 or valmreeves@gmail.com.

Along The Path . . .



“It is more blessed to give than to receive” – Paul quoting Jesus (in Acts)
“Give a person a fish, they’ll eat for a day. Teach them to fish, and they’ll eat for a lifetime.” – Maimonides

We’ve heard these sayings all our lives and as Christian we take Jesus words about being a servant to heart. Often that means we look to help others without ever expecting anything in return. However, I’ve recently been reading about the idea that when we are always “helping” people in need, we often breed disempowerment and dependency. And while it is true that there are people with very few financial and material resources, the reality is that everyone has something of equal value and worth, and that is their time.

That is the basis of Time Banking, the new mission program that I have been working on (very quietly) over the last several months. At the heart of it is the notion that we all have time and talents to share, that all our time is of equal value, and that it is just as important to be willing to receive help, as it is to give help.

The infrastructure needed to put Time Banking in place is now coming together and before the summer is over you will be hearing from me about how you can get involved. In the meantime, you can find out more about Time Banking on the internet (www.timebanks.org) or ask me and I can give you some reading material.

Feeling thankful for all the time and talent you share in our community!

. . . from your Prayer Ministry

Our country continues to experience the life of hatred that roils within it and then erupts violently with regularity. What were your thoughts and feelings when you heard of the blatant hate crime at the Emanuel AME church in Charleston, S. Carolina? We’ve had plenty of stories of violence caused by one person hating another because of their differences: skin color, a verbal accent, cultural practices and appearance of dress etc. Mohandas Ghandi wrote that “*Wherever in the world there is non-violence, there is Truth, and Truth is God. Where Truth and Nonviolence reign, there is peace and happiness.*” (Vol 85, Sept 19 and 29, 1946.) Earlier (vol 40, March 31, 1929) he had written “*If non-violence is (inherently) good, then insistence on following it in every way in our daily life is not a mistake, but a duty.*” In Vol 68 Jan. 1939, he stated that “*nonviolence not merely a personal virtue. It is also a social virtue, to be cultivated like the other virtues.*” He has numerous writings on the disciplined practice of non-violence.



The Sunday Plain Dealer, June 21st, carried a moving story of Cleveland Police Chief, Calvin Williams, who arrived at the scene of a shooting on the West Side. He was taunted by a raucous crowd of people carrying signs and hurling insults at the police, many of them directed quite personally and in the face of the police chief. Chief Williams listened to the insults and complaints, concern and rage of those present, remaining calm and responding in a way that subdued the crowd without having to raise his voice. At the end, it was reported that the individual hurling the gravest insults actually shook the Chief’s hand. They had met each other as real people, not titles or categories.

The newest Encyclical of Pope Francis has been released in multiple languages. The umbrella message stated simplistically is that we as human beings, are all of one family. Earth has been given to us for each of us to own and cherish. It is to be protected even as the human rights of our brothers and sisters are to be respected and protected.

Are we able to hear such words, see such example by leaders and not be moved to pray for insights and courage to understand what we are able to do --- and then **ACT**?

. . . ‘til next time, let us pray and practice non-violence in our words and actions

2015 ANNUAL MEETING



The Peace and Justice Committee decided to do 3 months of research in honor of our 85th Anniversary to find out what journey our Peace Award winners in the last 10 years had been on with their lives. Rev. Roger Osgood then put together a compelling video showing where they all are and what they have accomplished.

This year's Peace Award Winner, Marcia Brown spoke about her work as

Editor of the Shakerite student newspaper and work in the community. It is clear that all of our Award winners are making a positive difference and that our world is in good hands with a new generation working for Peace. We will show the video again this summer after adding our newest winner.



Passing the Torch—*Jane Troha, Moderator*



2015 Peace Award Winner, *Marcia Brown*



85th ANNIVERSARY



Our final celebration of the founding of Heights Christian Church took place on Sunday, June 28th when 18 members and friends reached out to “Build Community” at the Flying Cranes Café on Larchmere Blvd. Bill and Koyoto Frye welcomed us, told us about Koyoto’s dream of opening up a Japanese Tea Room which has now blossomed into a full service lunch and dinner restaurant and Bed and Breakfast.

After eating a deliciously prepared lunch, the rain stopped long enough for us to tour their patio, fully covered gazebo, and garden in the rear of their building. We all said we would return on a sunny day when we can enjoy this outdoor beauty. Then some of our group had fun exploring the shops along Larchmere.

BECAUSE YOU CARE Illness-Surgery-Hospitalization

Jesse Hall	Shirley Reading	C.D./Lois Clark	Mary Rogers	Henry Sharpley
Liz Perdue	Lisa Peabody	Jim/Sue Millward	Rita Brady	Alma G. Jones
Nancy Wilson	Scott Lemmon	Cas Castleberry	Patty Monroe	Samarra States
Joe Freudi	Dorothy Mathis	Janelle Eccleston	Lyubov Nikolenko	
Joe/Barbara Tolley	Paul/Shirley Hummel	Leo/Chris Ramirez		

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

10:00 a.m. Worship Service
11:00 a.m. Coffee Fellowship
(Nursery & Preschool care provided)

STAFF

Minister *Rev. Roger D. Osgood*
Minister of Outreach *Rev. Joan Brown Campbell*
Director of Music *Dale Hukill*
Director of Gospel Music *Willie J. Wright, Jr.*
Office Administrator *Kese Webb*
Facilities Coordinator *Mike Faust*
Childcare *Rosie Scott*

OFFICERS

Moderator *Jane Troha*
Vice Moderator *Valencia McMillan*
Secretary *Grace Loudenstein*
Treasurer *Neil Chase*
Assistant Treasurers *Jim Donald*
Mike Singerman

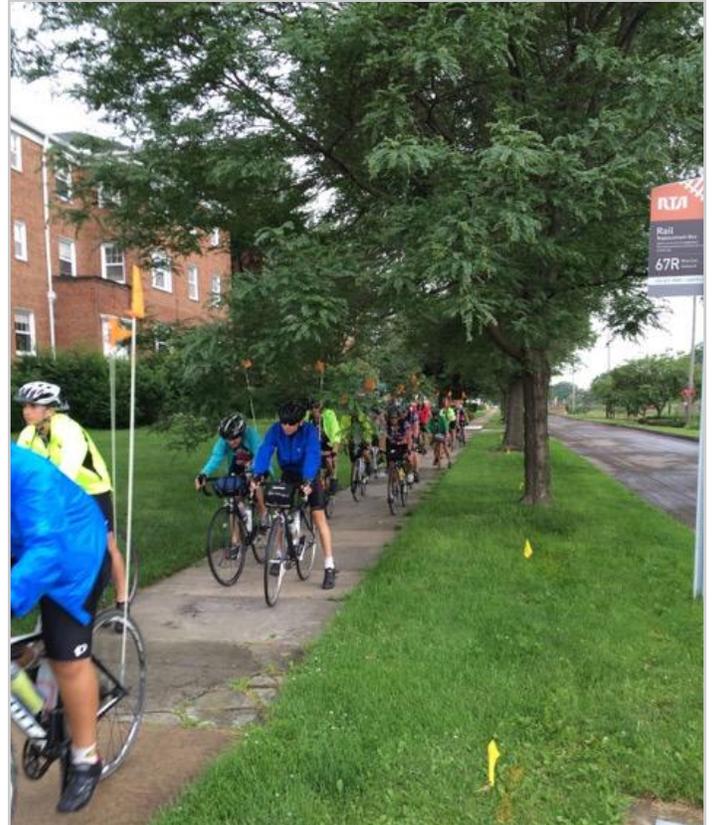
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**“deCylces” YOUTH GROUP
STAY AT HCC**



Dear Heights Christian Church,
Thank you so much for your hospitality and an amazing dinner. We really enjoyed the extra treats given to us for breakfast!
Virginie & deCycles

